Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SSC-01 //065 W

-----072351Z 058088 /61

R 071526Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2465
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME

CONFIDENTIAL CAIRO 3942

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PFOR EG FR

SUBJ: CHANGE OF EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR IN PARIS

REF: CAIRO 3117 (NOTAL)

1. SUDDENESS OF ANNOUNCEMENT SWITCH IN EGYPTIAN AMBASSADORS TO PARIS (REF) IS PREDICTABLY GENERATING RUMORS OF SCANDAL. WESTERN DIPLOMAT TELLS US BROTHER OF NEW AMBASSADOR, HAFIZ ISMAIL, SAID HAFIZ GOT CALL NOT TO GO TO INDIA ON SAME DAY HE WAS DUE DEPART FOR NEW DELHI. EGYPTIAN JOURNALIST TELLS US NAGUIB AL-QADRI, PREVIOUS PARIS INCUMBENT, LEARNED HE OUT OF JOB FROM MENA REPORT, PROMPTLY CABLED HIS RESIGNATION FROM FOREIGN SERVICE AND WAS LAST HEAR OF IN ROME.

2. COMMENT: RUMOR RUNS THAT DE GUIRINGAUD BROUGHT WORD THAT ASHRAF MARWAN, ARMS DEALER EXTRAORINAIRE, WAS EMBARRASSING GOE BY HIS WHEELER DEALER STYLE. WE HAD PREVIOUSLY KNOWN THAT ASHRAF, IN HIS AOI AND OTHER CAPACITIES, DID NOT CHECK IN WITH CONFIDENTIAL

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AL-QADRI WHILE ON BUYING TRIPS TO PARIS, MUCH TO
ALTTER'S CHAGRIN. WE CANNOT CONFIRM STORIES OF FINANCIAL SCANDALS
WHICH GAINING GROUND LOCALLY, BUT IF SADAT DOES WANT STRONG,
SENIOR MAN IN PARIS, HAFIZ IS OBVIOUS CHOICE, HAVING HIGH PERSONAL
RANK, REPUTATION FOR HONESTY, AND LONG PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE
IN MILITARY AFFAIRS. (HE NEGOTIATED 1955 CZECH ARMS DEAL.)
MATTHEWS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Subject: CHANGE OF EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR IN PARIS

TAGS: PFOR, EG, FR, (ISMAIL, MUHAMMAD HAFIZ), (MARWAN, ASHRAF)

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